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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The area affected by pests in the Chingleput district this year was 11,805 acres under food crops and 2,175 acres under other crops.

" (b) The various pesticides supplied by the Agricultural department are :

(i) Benzene Hexhchloride.

(ii) DDT.

(iii) Toxophene.

(iv) Calcium arsenate.

(v) Sulphur.

(vi) Follidol.

(vii) Hexaethyltetraphosphate.

" (c) The answer is in the negative."

Wynaad Colonization Scheme

* 1832 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the reasons for not using tiles instead of asbestos for houses in Wynaad Colonization Scheme?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Government wanted that the buildings in the Wynaad Colonization Scheme to be of semi-permanent and temporary type on the models of those adopted for staff quarters at Machkund with galvanized iron sheet roofing with a view to adopt cheap designs. However, in view of the difficulty to obtain galvanized iron sheets and for the reasons mentioned below, asbestos sheet roofing was adopted :

(i) The walls are built with sun-burnt bricks which will not carry heavy loads on account of using Mangalore tiles roofing, with consequent wind loads.

(ii) The loading per square foot with asbestos sheet roofing is 18 lb. as against 35 lb. with Mangalore tiled roof. The Mangalore tiles roof requires rafters at least at intervals of 2 feet with reepers, as against purlins at intervals of 6 feet in the case of asbestos sheet roofing.

(iii) Taking into consideration the cost of timber roofing with Mangalore tiles over ceiling tiles, Mangalore tiled roofing is costlier than asbestos sheet roofing."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, in doing this, have the Government considered the reaction on the part of the tile industry which is already being invaded by the use of asbestos? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, that is another aspect of the question from the point of view of a particular industry. But here we must give priority to the question of economy in building cheap houses for these poor colonists."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, in view of the fact that, apart from the owners of the tile industry, the Chamber of Commerce, Malabar, and also workers organizations have represented to the Government that the tile industry is adversely affected on account of the use of asbestos, will the Government reconsider the whole position in favour of using the tiles made in Malabar? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, but economy regarding the cost of these buildings must be the first consideration so far as the Wynaad Colonization Scheme is concerned."

SRI B. K. NALLASWAMI :—" Sir, are the Government aware of the fact that because of the Mangalore tile industry, the local cottage tile industries are affected and will the Government give preference to the country tiles? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not think there should be any conflict between one type of tiles and another type of tiles. It is for the people to choose."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, when thousands of people are without even a single cloth and we plead that they should be given cheap mill cloth, in order to protect the handloom industry, the Government not only impose a cess but also a special cess. We do not disapprove of it for the protection of the handloom industry. Why in this matter are the Government guided by the motive of economy rather than the well being of the tile industry which is an important industry in the West Coast? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, that is because of this position. I do not think that any person is naked for want of cheap cloth. On the other hand, thousands and thousands of people are without houses and therefore we give prior consideration to the question of economy in the construction of houses."

Loans under N.E.S. Scheme, South Arcot district

* 1833 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) The amount sanctioned by the Government for the South Arcot District Block Development area under the National Extension Service for giving loans to agriculturists and pesants;